

# Major Construction Fact Sheet

## University Drive Update

### Mission Overview

On May 7, 2004, the CARES Commission approved VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System (VAPHS) for a \$200 million dollar major construction project. The purpose of this project is to enhance the care provided to Veterans and to achieve efficiency through consolidation of a three division health care system into two divisions. The construction at University Drive will encompass four major areas: the parking garage, the behavioral health addition, roadway improvements, and the research building.

### CARES Guiding Principles

- Construction will take place at both the University Drive Division and the H. John Heinz III Progressive Care Center locations in order to relocate the current functions of the Highland Drive Division.
- No programs or services provided at the VAPHS will be discontinued as a result of the construction.
- The consolidation will be completed without a Reduction in Force (RIF).

### University Drive Timeline

#### **Parking Garage:**

Construction in progress  
Activation 2007

#### **Behavioral Health Addition:**

Design in progress  
Construction 2008-2010

#### **Roadway Improvements:**

Design in progress  
Construction 2007

#### **Research Building:**

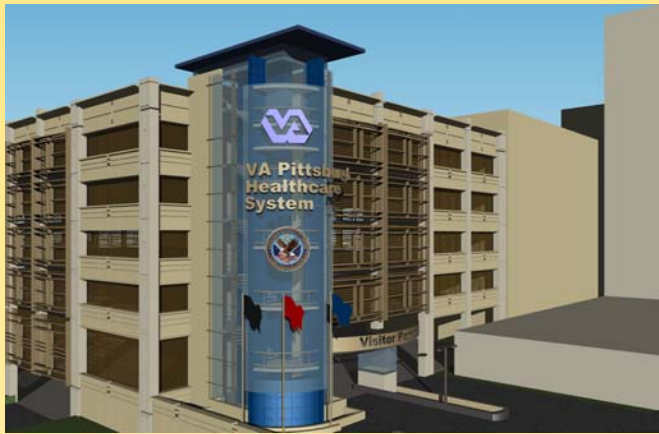
Design in progress  
Construction 2007-2008

### Benefits of Construction

- State-of-the-art facilities, providing world class psychiatric and ambulatory care for both inpatient & outpatient populations
- Improved environment, increased patient satisfaction and improved clinical outcomes
- Enhanced behavioral health care in close proximity to acute care and University affiliate
- Homelike environment for veterans in recovery based treatment
- Elimination of parking and traffic congestion at University Drive Division
- Enhanced patient privacy
- Improved patient safety through reduced transport of veterans between campuses
- Eliminates congestion in the University Drive lobby
- Recruit nationally renowned providers with new adjacencies to the University of Pittsburgh
- Highland Drive, a 50 year old, 169 acre campus, will be redeveloped to benefit and honor veterans



*University Drive as it existed in 2005*



← Artist  
rendition of  
Parking  
Garage  
(Northeast  
view)

Artist rendition  
of behavioral  
health addition  
(Southeast  
view) ↓



## Parking Garage

- A 9 story parking structure adds nearly 1500 free parking spaces for patients, visitors, and staff
- Will reduce traffic congestion and wait times

## Hospital Addition

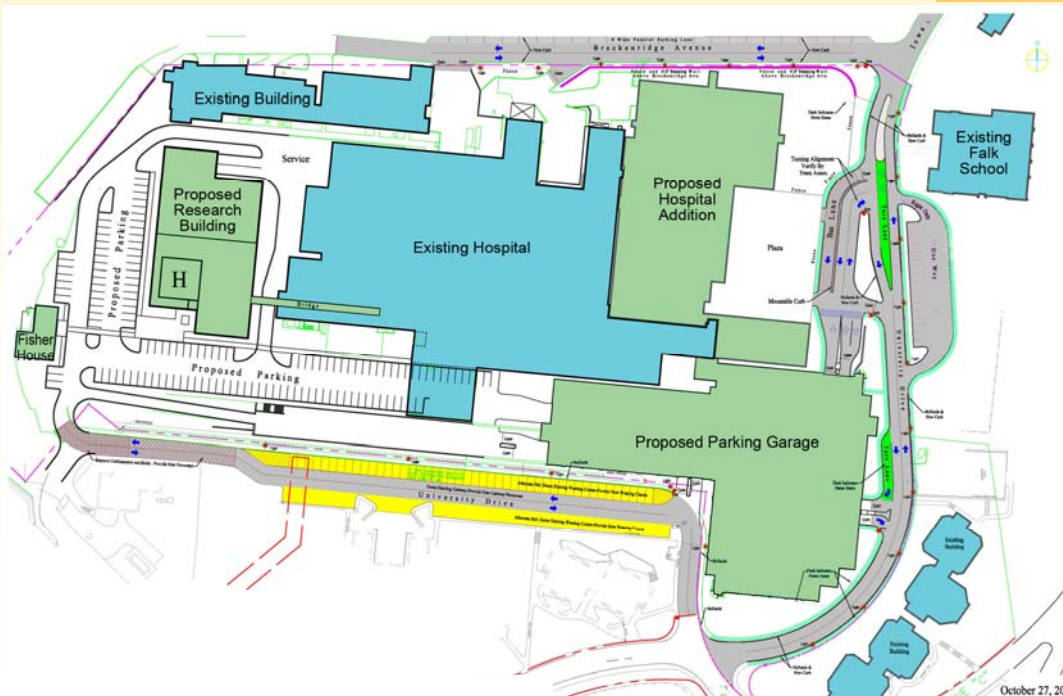
- Includes 194,851 sf. of world class space for: Inpatient and Outpatient Behavioral Health, Audiology, Education and Multimedia Center, and a new Information Center connecting the new hospital addition, the existing hospital, the pharmacy, and the recently renovated business center

## Roadway Improvement

- Will allow improved traffic flow
- Improve residential and community access

## Research Building

- Will attract world renowned researchers due to new facilities and proximity to University of Pittsburgh



Site Plan of UD  
showing road  
improvements

*Buildings in green  
are new buildings.  
Brackenridge Ave.  
will be widened to  
provide a parallel  
parking lane*

**For more information visit  
[www.va.gov/pittsburgh](http://www.va.gov/pittsburgh)**

Updated 1/07